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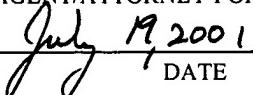
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THOMAS S. DEIBERT, REG. NO. 40,984
AGENT/ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANT


July 19, 2001
DATE

Attorney Docket No. P50593

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Gentry, et al

Serial No.: 09/308,397

Filed: May 28, 1999

For: Novel FabD

Group Art Unit No.: 1655

Examiner: Forman, B.

Box: AF
Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.116

Sir:

This Amendment is responsive to the Office Action mailed April 19, 2001 (Paper No. 16). Applicants respectfully request entry of this Amendment and reconsideration of the application in view thereof.

This Amendment is believed timely filed. Should this Amendment not be considered timely filed, Applicants hereby request a retroactive extension of time to file for the number of months required to maintain pendency of the Application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required by this paper to Deposit Account No. 50-0258.¹

¹ If an Extension is deemed necessary, please consider this Paper to comprise a Petition for such an Extension.